

REMARKS

Claims 2 and 5 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. The Examiner states that in claim 2 it is unclear how the protuberance for engaging with a rectangular aperture has a spherical side surface. Claims 1 and 3, independent claims from which claims 2 and 5, respectively, depend, have been rewritten so that this rejection is not valid.

Claims 1, 3, 4, and 10-18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Davidson et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,297,967. Claims 1, 3, 4, and 6-18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Bianca et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,051,781.

It appears that Davidson et al. discloses a printed circuit board 5 having at least one tab 6 (at least one contact protuberance), and a flat screening plate 2 (EMI shield member) having sidewalls 3. The sidewall 3 is formed with an opening 4 (aperture) receiving the at least one tab 6. The aperture 4 does not extend throughout the entire height of the sidewall 3.

In Davidson et al., the contact protuberance 6 projects from one of the opposite sides of the printed circuit board 5 (column 4, lines 13-14, lines 24-26) and has a terminal end. As will be seen from Fig. 3, the contact protuberance 6 extends through the aperture 4 and is engaged by a contact wall defining the aperture 4.

Referring to Bianca et al., a printed circuit board 26 has at least one clip 10 (at least one contact protuberance), and a cover or lid 38 (EMI shield member) having sidewalls 20. The sidewall 20 is formed with a hole or notch 24 (aperture) receiving a pick-up tab 18a of the contact protuberance 10. The aperture 24 does not extend throughout the entire height of the sidewall 20. The pick-up tab 18a has a terminal end (see Fig. 1).

In Bianca et al., the terminal end of the pick-up tab 18a of the protuberance 10 registers the lower edge (aperture contact wall) of the aperture 24 (column 3, lines 41-45).

In contrast, the contact wall 13 in the present invention defines an aperture that has an unchanging shape and area throughout the entire thickness of EMI shield member 11. For example, in Figs. 1, 2, and 5-10, the aperture has the same circular shape and area throughout the entire thickness of EMI shield member 11. In Figs. 3 and 4, the aperture has the same rectangular shape and area throughout the entire thickness of EMI shield member 11.

In the present invention, at least one contact protuberance (12, 20, 32, 40) is on a ground plane of a printed circuit 10 and it has a terminal end (such as a vertex in Figs. 1 and 2) elevated from the ground plane by a height A. The at least one contact protuberance (12, 20, 32, 40) extends into an aperture defined by a contact wall 13. The contact wall 13 is in contact with the contact protuberance (12, 20, 32, 40) to hold the terminal end to keep the EMI shield member 11 in a predetermined parallel relationship with the ground plane of the printed circuit board 10, (see Figs. 1, 4, 5 and 7).

In Davidson et al., in contrast, a printed circuit board 5 has at least one tab 6, (at least one contact protuberance), and a flat screening plate 2, (EMI shield member), has sidewalls 3 formed with an opening 4, (aperture), receiving the at least one tab 6. In Davidson et al., the aperture 4 and contact protuberance 6 do not keep the EMI shield member 2 in a parallel relationship with the printed circuit board.

Referring to Bianca et al., a printed circuit board 26 has at least one clip 10, (at least one contact protuberance), and a cover or lid 38, (EMI shield member), having sidewalls 20. The sidewall 20 is formed with a hole or notch 24, (aperture), receiving a pick-up tab 18a of the contact protuberance 10. The pick-up tab 18a has a terminal end, (see Fig. 1). In Bianca et al., similarly to Davidson et al., the aperture 24 and contact protuberance 10 do not keep the EMI shield member 38 in a parallel relationship with the printed circuit board 26.

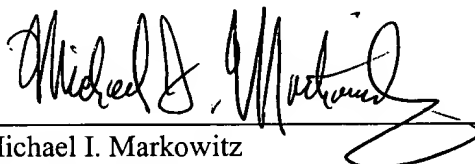
CLOSING

An earnest effort has been made to be fully responsive to the Examiner's objections. In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is believed that independent claims 1, 3, 10, 12, 15, and 18 are in condition for allowance, as well as those claims dependent therefrom. Passage of this case to allowance is earnestly solicited.

However, if for any reason the Examiner should consider this application not to be in condition for allowance, he is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned attorney at the number listed below prior to issuing a further Action.

Any fee due with this paper, not fully covered by an enclosed check, may be charged on Deposit Account 50-1290.

Respectfully submitted,
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